

May 13, 2014

The Marion County Council held its regularly scheduled meeting, on Tuesday, May 13, 2014 at 9:00 A.M., in the City Council Chambers City Hall, Marion, South Carolina. Members present were Buddy Collins, Chairman; Elista H. Smith, Vice Chairperson; John Q. Atkinson, Jr., Allen W. Floyd, Simon Jenkins, Thomas E. Shaw, and Milton W. Troy, II. Also present were G. Timothy Harper, Administrator; Charles L. McLain III, County Attorney; and Sabrina Davis, Clerk to Council. A representative from the Star & Enterprise was present and duly notified.

Chairman Collins called the meeting to order and asked Councilman Simon Jenkins to lead the Invocation, after which he welcomed visitors and read the Freedom of Information Announcement.

Motion was made by Mr. Jenkins, seconded by Mr. Floyd, and carried unanimously, to approve as written, the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 24, 2014.

The County Attorney stated that item A. B. & C. second reading for the ordinance listed on the agenda as follows were not ready: A. Second Reading of Ordinance #2014-03 An Ordinance to Authorize the Lease of the Marion County Tax Parcel Number 121-00-00-033-000, more commonly referred to as the Old Marion County Landfill at Ariel Crossroads to Benjie Andrew for the sole purpose of cattle grazing under the terms of the lease attached hereto and made a part hereof, B. Second Reading of Ordinance #2014-05, An Ordinance Authorizing the Lease, and all other matters required thereto, of certain Real Property Owned by Marion County Designated as Tax ID Number 055-00-00-121 & 127 to Project NY1; C. Second Reading of Ordinance #2014-06 Fiscal Year Budget 2014-2015.

There were no reports given by Committee #1 or Committee #2.

Ms. Sandra Barnes, who is the Clinic Director of Marion Mental Health Center, appeared before Council to introduce herself and to thank the Council for their support. She told Council that mental health serve 136 children in the clinic and schools in Marion County. Mental Health provides services to 245 adult clients a total of 381 clients that receive services from the Marion office. She mentioned that mental health recently hired a full-time employee to assist with clients that may not have Medicaid and have transportation problems that prevent them from keeping scheduled appointments. Ms. Barnes stated that currently mental health has a counselor at the alternative and the elementary schools. Mr. Troy stated that it is an essential service that is needed. Chairman Collins thanked Ms. Barnes for her presentation.

The County Attorney reported to Council that he has researched the request in reference to Sunday alcohol sales. Mr. McLain told Council that this said matters is a lengthy process that begins with adopting an ordinance and a referendum. He stated that the referendum has to be on a general election cycle, and has to be given to the election commission 180 prior to the date of the general election. Mr. McLain stated that it would be 2016 before the County can revisit this issue again. He also explained other factors that involve this process. Mr. McLain told Council that he would be working and gathering information to get everything in place.

The Administrator updated Council on the new Administration Building. Mr. Harper told Council that the architects have submitted the plans to the city for their review.

The Administrator updated Council on the Capital Sales Tax. Mr. Harper told Council that revenues are above what projections were. He stated that the courthouse has been completed.

The Administrator presented to Council information in reference to the State contract gas purchasing. Mr. Harper told Council that the County's current system, Gasboy by MECO, has been down since March 4, 2014. Data is being calculated manually for monthly reports. Mr. Harper presented two alternatives: (1). Repairs and upgrade Gasboy by MECO. (2). Enroll in South Carolina's BCB's State Fuel Management-Mansfield Oil Company. Mr. Harper explained the difference between the two alternatives. He stated that there is no annual support, no contract and no start up fees, if the County chooses the State Fuel Management System. Mr. Harper asked Council's approval to contract with the Statewide Fuel Management System Mansfield Oil Company. Motion was made by Mr. Floyd, seconded by Mr. Shaw, Vice Chairperson Smith asked about the monitoring process. Mr. Harper stated that there is a check and balance in place. Mr. Harper also stated that he and each department head will receive a gas report at the end of the month. The motion carried unanimously.

The Administrator updated Council on the Emergency Communications Tower. Mr. Harper told Council that the County is moving forward. The primary location is the training grounds in the City of Mullins. He stated that the Mullins City Council would discuss at their meeting whether to lease, or give the property to the County.

The Administrator told Council that the County's bids for banking services have been advertised.

The Administrator mentioned to Council that the Foxtrot Festival will be held on Saturday, May 17th. Mr. Harper told Mr. Shaw that he is contacting various counties in reference to a vicious dog ordinance.

The Administrator provided Council a packet from Paws to the Rescue in reference to the animal shelter. Mr. Harper told Council that there was one bid. He stated that Paws to the Rescue submitted a bid in the amount of \$53,000.00. Mr. Harper asked Council to review the packet for further discussion at the May 22nd meeting.

Vice Chairperson Smith stated that the Marion Area Ministerial Alliance did a report on the Manufacturing Skills Program. Vice Chairperson Smith asked Dr. Norman how this information was advertised. Dr. Norman stated through the newspaper, adult education, DSS, Voc Rehab, ACT etc. Vice Chairperson Smith wanted to make sure that everyone was aware of this program. She advised Dr. Norman to advertise this program on the radio and the TV stations. Vice Chairperson Smith recommended visiting the local churches.

Motion was made by Vice Chairperson Smith, seconded by Mr. Jenkins, and carried unanimously, to go into executive session for a legal matter (railroad) and a contractual matter (animal shelter).

Motion was made by Mr. Jenkins seconded by Mr. Floyd and carried unanimously, to close executive session and reopen the regular scheduled meeting. Chairman Collins stated that no action was taken during executive session called for a legal and a contractual matter.

The Administrator asked Council's permission to pay the County's part in legal fees in reference to the Carolina Southern Railroad Committee. Motion was made by Mr. Floyd, seconded by Mr. Jenkins, and carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Atkinson, seconded by Mr. Troy, and carried unanimously, to go into executive session for an economic development matter.

Motion was made by Vice Chairperson Smith, seconded by Mr. Jenkins, and carried unanimously, to close executive session and reopen the regular scheduled meeting. Chairman Collins stated that no action was taken during executive session called for an economic development matter.

There being no further business to discuss, motion was made by Vice Chairperson Smith, seconded, by Mr. Troy, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:32 A.M.

Buddy Collins, Chairman

Elista H. Smith Vice Chairperson

John Q. Atkinson, Jr.

Allen W. Floyd

Simon Jenkins, Chaplain

Thomas E. Shaw

Milton W. Troy, II

G. Timothy Harper, Administrator

Charles L. McLain, III County Attorney

Sabrina Davis, Clerk to Council